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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

April 2, 1980



TO: David J. Wagner, Coastal Management
Land Resource Programs

FROM: David J. Batchelor, Permit Enforcement
Environmental Enforcement Division

SUBJECT: Downriver Industrial Design Project
Pennwalt Chemical Corporation (Wyandotte)

I have reviewed your memorandum of March 19, 1980 and the attachment which was provided.

The Department (Michigan Coastal Management Program) has awarded a grant to the Downriver Community Conference (DCC) for the purpose of developing and coordinating the implementation of design techniques for improving the aesthetic quality of selected industrial facilities along the Detroit River; and, to improve visual and physical access to the river. Pennwalt Chemical Corporation has expressed interest in voluntary participation in this community renovation program.

Negotiations between the Department and Pennwalt relative to alleged violations of NPDES permit conditions are nearly complete. Entry of a Final Order of Abatement is expected in May or June of this year. Final settlement will probably be reached before the DCC riverfront proposal and specific site improvements for Pennwalt are submitted for Departmental approval.

Departmental approvals relative to any on-site improvement techniques at Pennwalt as part of the DCC riverfront program must be compatible with the requirements of all statutes administered by the Department, and the terms and conditions of any Departmental licenses, permits or approvals issued to the company.

Accordingly, it is recommended that any aspects of the DCC riverfront proposal pertaining to Pennwalt specifically be reviewed and approved by appropriate technical staff. In the event that settlement with Pennwalt regarding permit matters has not been completed, this division and the Attorney General must review and approve the DCC proposal before final Departmental approval is granted.

I suggest that you contact staff from Air Quality, Resource Recovery and Water Quality Divisions to determine if they are interested in, or desire to comment on the aspects of the DCC proposal affecting Pennwalt and any other specific companies. Mr. Roy Schrameck, District I, Water Quality Division has participated extensively in our negotiations with Pennwalt and could determine how DCC's proposal regarding the company relates to, or is compatible with, water quality statute and permit requirements.

As we discussed, many things which could be done to improve aesthetic conditions can also have a beneficial affect on environmental quality. Some examples include: clean-up of rubbish or building construction materials; planting a vegetative buffer zone (trees, shrubs) and grass cover; construction of berms; building maintenance (painting, etc.); and fencing.

DB:sct

cc: D. Rector
T. Work
R. Courchaine
R. Schrameck
P. Zugger/J. Miller
S. Freeman